

Draft

**Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the
13th October 2022 in the Village Hall**

Present

Cllr J Friend (chairman)
Mrs C Parkhouse
Cllr R Pelling
Cllr Mrs S Pine
Cllr S Shortridge
Cllr J Watts

Also present 1 members of the public

Officer

G Dwyer

Oct22/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mrs L Campbell, County Councillor A Davis and District Councillor J Tucker.

Oct22/2 Public Question Time

A member of the public drew the Councils attention to contractors and owners not clearing hedge cuttings which could block gulleys and blackthorn needles could puncture car tyres. It was noted that it was the landowner's responsibility to clear the highway of waste material after work of this nature. A member of the public drew the Councils attention to the new arrangements for emergency services

Oct22/3 Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th September 2022

RESOLVED that the minutes as previously circulated be approved

Oct22/4 Matters arising from the minutes

There were none

Oct22/5 Inspection of Defibrillator

The defibrillator had been inspected and cleaned.

Oct22/6 Cheques for Payment

A cheque for £125.00 to G Dwyer (Clerks salary) was signed at the meeting

Oct22/7 Report of the County Councillor

County Cllr Mrs Davis had apologised for her non-attendance due to ill health and had forwarded a report which would be attached to these minutes.

Oct22/8 Questions to the County Councillor

There were no questions

Oct22/9 Report of the District Councillor

District Councillor J Tucker had apologised for his non-attendance

Oct22/10 Questions to the District Councillor

There were no questions

Oct22/11 Correspondence

The following correspondence has been received

- DALC newsletter
- SW Fire Service budget consultation exercise

Other general correspondence was noted

Oct22/12 Planning Applications

Cllr Mrs Pine declared a prejudicial interest in this application, left the meeting and did not speak or vote thereon

Planning Application 75992 Extension to dwelling at 2 Plaistow Barton Cottages Shirwell Barnstaple Devon EX31 4LF **RESOLVED** to recommend **APPROVAL**

Oct22/13 Planning Decisions

There were none

Oct22/14 Reports from Councillors

Cllr Mrs L Campbell had advised the Council that she would be moving from the area in early November and so of necessity was resigning from the council.

It was noted that revised speed restrictions in the Burr ridge area were being advertised

Oct22/15 Cheque Signatory Mandate

Nat West Bank mandate procedure was still proving difficult to deal with as despite saying earlier in the month that the process was now complete the Clerk had received a letter saying that there was an error in the way a signature had been filled in. Despite agreeing with the Clerk that they would forward this to be corrected it hadn't been received. **RESOLVED** the Clerk's comments be noted.

Oct22/16 Clerks Report

The Clerk detailed the long process that completing the signature mandate had become. It was now apparent that the Banks checking process was halted once a problem was encountered and the form rejected in entirety, subsequent errors being dealt with in the same way which had resulted in 4 separate submissions. The Clerk had spent several hours on the phone with the Bank resolving the various issues, none of which were major. He had lodged a formal complaint to the Bank.

The Clerk reminded members that they needed to decide on grants to outside bodies when deciding on the precept level. It was **RESOLVED** that a projection be prepared that did not allow for grants to outside bodies

Oct22/17 Public Questions regarding business on this agenda

There was none

Oct22/18 Urgent Business

There was none

The meeting closed at 7.56 pm

Chairman:.....

Dated:.....

Shirwell Parish Council
County Councillors report
October 2022

Retirement of Chief Executive

Devon County Council's long-serving chief executive, Phil Norrey, has retired. Mrs Jan Spicer has taken over the role on an interim basis, formerly Devon County Councils solicitor she is in post while the recruitment is underway for the substantive post. This is likely to be advertised imminently.

DCC Finance

Devon County Council is facing an unprecedented black hole in our finances caused by the cost of living crisis and spiralling demand for help for vulnerable children and adults.

The Director of Finance, Angie Sinclair predicts that we could overspend by more than £40 million in the current financial year. And she says urgent action must be taken by every council department to rein in spending.

A panel of senior officers is already looking at options for councillors to consider including spending cuts, remodelling services to save money and cancelling or delaying building projects. Unlike central government, local councils are required by law to balance their books every year.

At Septembers cabinet continuing pressure on children's services from cost pressures and rising demand with a £12.1 million overspend still predicted on placements for disabled children and independent residential care services was again reported.

Bus companies are giving up contracts for school transport mean services have to be re-tendered at additional cost and this is the main contributor to a £5.9 million overspend in education services.

The £18.6 million savings and extra income identified so far includes income from rising interest rates, delaying some in-house IT projects, reducing spending on insurance contributions and emergency provision and scaling back some targeted funding.

Parish council's in my area are aware that the local members locality budget has been suspended to help with the concerning financial situation. Our essential frontline services have to be prioritised and we must try to continue to support the local economy to help Devon bounce back from the pandemic. Global price increases and spiralling inflation are having a major impact on our day-to-day services and infrastructure projects and we are facing extraordinary additional costs at a time when budgets are already under strain. We are facing a winter of difficult decisions and tough choices. It is only right that I warn you that things are not going to be easy this winter

Final version of the Devon Carbon Plan has now been published by the Devon Climate Emergency partnership.

Supported by DCC and the latest scientific evidence, the Plan is our county's roadmap to becoming net-zero by 2050 at the latest, and it spells out exactly what we all have to do to create a resilient, sustainable county where people and nature can thrive.

Its publication follows a summer where the impact of human-induced climate change had never been more apparent. Summer 2022 was the joint hottest on record, with four of the five warmest summers for England occurring since 2003.

Through choosing what we buy, how we travel, and how we live the Carbon Plan highlights the long-term changes we can all make to help reduce our impact on the planet.

Additionally, the Plan sets out a range of detailed, evidence-based solutions and strategic objectives for national and local policy makers in areas such as energy production, transport, and the buildings we live and work in.

It has been delivered by Devon Climate Emergency, a partnership of 29 businesses, public bodies, voluntary groups, and Devon's 11 principal councils, including ourselves.

Between now and the New Year each one of those organisations will be called on to endorse and demonstrate how they will use their responsibilities and influence to enact the Plan.

Most emissions (68 per cent) in Devon (including Torbay and Plymouth) come from buildings – our homes and workplaces – and on-road transport. Or, sliced another way, 74 per cent of *all* emissions relate to the energy we use one way or another, from the oil and gas that powers our economy, fuels our cars, and heats our homes.

The Carbon Plan sets out in clear, stark terms that to achieve net-zero we must increase the amount of renewable energy we produce and use.

Currently just seven per cent of Devon's energy comes from sustainable sources – and it needs to be almost 100 per cent by 2050.

All organisations are encouraged to sign the Devon Climate Declaration through the Devon Climate Emergency website to show the growing support for taking action.

The full Devon Carbon Plan is available on the [DCE website](#). The link also includes a Quick Read version, highlighting the key actions that Devon can take to become net-zero by 2050 at the latest.

Reminder of how to report a Highway issue;
[Report a problem - Roads and transport \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)
0345 155 1004

Live chat is available on the Highways website Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 12 pm and 2 pm to 4.30 pm (4 pm on Fridays). To report a problem with road maintenance, traffic management and parking, streetlights and signs and public rights of way

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